(c) if so, to what extent it has given boost to the exports; and

(d) the other steps being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) A Task Force has been constituted under the Department of Heavy Industry for promotion of export of capital goods. The Task Force consists of representatives from different Ministries/Departments and Industry Associations.The Government and manufacturing industry are expected to work as partners. The aforesaid Task Force has been recently constituted and it is very early to quantify their impact on exports at this juncture.

Fund for clearance of statutory dues of sick PSUs

2593. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES
AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be please to state:

(a) whether government porpose to float a dedicated fund to ensure clearance of statutory dues of crores of rupees payable by sick public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the sources by which the proposed funds would be generated; and

(c) to what extent the public sector undertakings, which have fallen sick in the past few years, would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) There is no poposal at present to float a dedicated fund at national level for clearance of statutory dues payable by sick public sector undertakings.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Guidelines for FDI in Newspapers and Periodicals

2594. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be please to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines issued by her Ministry for FDI in newspapers and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs;